

REMARKS

The Applicant will address the rejections and objections in the order they were presented.

Claims 26-56 are pending in the application. In the Office Action mailed on April 1, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 26-29, 35, 40-46, 51-54 and 56. Claims 30-34, 36-39, 47-50 and 55 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In accordance with the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner, claims 26, 31, 35, 37, 47 and 54 are amended to be in allowable form. Claims 45 and 53 are amended to correct minor informalities.

For all of these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed on April 1, 2003, are overcome and should be withdrawn. In view of the forgoing remarks, it is believed that Claims 26-29, 31-35, 37-54 and 56 are in condition for allowance and accordingly, early allowance is solicited.

It is believed that the following fees are due for this communication:

1. 2-Month Extension of Time \$205.00

2. 3 Additional Independent Claims \$126.00

Total Amount Due \$331.00

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due to Pennie & Edmonds LLP
Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 2, 2003



45,645

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(Reg. No.)

For:

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